

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Janardhanan S. AJIT

Appl. No.: 10/617,874

Filed: July 14, 2003

For: **I/O Circuit Using Low Voltage
Transistors Which Can Tolerate High
Voltages Even When Power Supplies Are
Powered Off**

Confirmation No.: 3434

Art Unit: 2816

Examiner: Lam, Tuan Thieu

Atty. Docket: 1875.2120003

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may

not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final

Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☒ 7. Copies of the documents **BA1-BF1, BA2-BF2, BA3-BF3, BA4-BG4, and CB1** are submitted herewith.

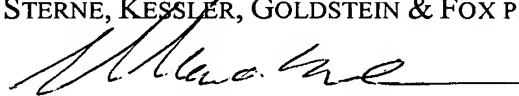
- ☒ 8. Copies of the documents **BG4** and **CA1** were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. 10/043,788, filed January 9, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☒ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.
- ☒ 10. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the Parent Application No. 10/043,788, filed January 9, 2002 in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Theodore A. Wood
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 52,374

Date: July 19, 2004

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JUL 19 2004

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/617,874		
		Filing Date	July 14, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Janardhanan S. AJIT		
		Art Unit	2816		
		Examiner Name	Lam, Tuan Thieu		
Sheet	1	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	1875.2120003

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if Known)			
	AA1	US-4,473,758	09-25-1984	Huntington	
	AB1	US-4,556,804	12-03-1985	Dewitt	
	AC1	US-5,170,078	12-08-1992	Hsueh <i>et al.</i>	
	AD1	US-5,184,031	02-02-1993	Hayakawa <i>et al.</i>	
	AE1	US-5,208,488	05-04-1993	Takiba <i>et al.</i>	
	AF1	US-5,350,951	09-27-1994	Adachi	
	AG1	US-5,444,272	08-22-1995	Ajit	
	AH1	US-5,474,946	12-12-1995	Ajit <i>et al.</i>	
	AI1	US-5,483,087	01-09-1996	Ajit	
	AJ1	US-5,498,884	03-12-1996	Ajit	
	AK1	US-5,506,535	04-09-1996	Ratner	
	AL1	US-5,528,447	06-18-1996	McManus <i>et al.</i>	
	AM1	US-5,557,127	09-17-1996	Ajit <i>et al.</i>	
	AN1	US-5,581,100	12-03-1996	Ajit	
	AO1	US-5,623,151	04-22-1997	Ajit	
	AP1	US-5,629,535	05-03-1997	Ajit	
	AQ1	US-5,646,809	07-08-1997	Motley <i>et al.</i>	
	AR1	US-5,654,858	08-05-1997	Martin <i>et al.</i>	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA1	DE 19521751	02-01-1996	Ajit		
	BB1	DE 19523172	02-01-1996	Ajit		
	BC1	DE 19526537	02-01-1996	Ajit		
	BD1	DE 19530109	04-04-1996	Ajit		
	BE1	DE 19547756	08-22-1996	Ajit <i>et al.</i>		
	BF1	DE 19638381	06-12-1997	Ajit		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/617,874		
		Filing Date	July 14, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Janardhanan S. AJIT		
		Art Unit	2816		
		Examiner Name	Lam, Tuan Thieu		
Sheet	2	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	1875.2120003

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA2	US-5,719,411	02-17-1998	Ajit	
	AB2	US-5,757,033	05-26-1998	Ajit	
	AC2	US-5,757,034	05-26-1998	Ajit	
	AD2	US-5,783,474	07-21-1998	Ajit	
	AE2	US-5,793,066	08-11-1998	Ajit	
	AF2	US-5,852,375	12-22-1998	Byrne <i>et al.</i>	
	AG2	US-5,877,515	03-02-1999	Ajit	
	AH2	US-5,909,142	06-01-1999	Kawasaki <i>et al.</i>	
	AI2	US-5,910,664	06-08-1999	Ajit	
	AJ2	US-5,914,626	06-22-1999	Kim <i>et al.</i>	
	AK2	US-6,005,413	12-21-1999	Schmitt	
	AL2	US-6,018,257	01-25-2000	Hung <i>et al.</i>	
	AM2	US-6,031,394	02-29-2000	Cranford, Jr. <i>et al.</i>	
	AN2	US-6,054,888	04-25-2000	Maley	
	AO2	US-6,072,351	06-06-2000	Sharpe-Geisler	
	AP2	US-6,081,132	06-27-2000	Isabara	
	AQ2	US-6,081,412	06-27-2000	Duncan <i>et al.</i>	
	AR2	US-6,130,556	10-10-2000	Schmitt <i>et al.</i>	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA2	DE 19641839	05-15-1997	Ajit		
	BB2	FR 2722335	01-12-1996	Ajit		
	BC2	FR 2723259	02-02-1996	Ajit		
	BD2	FR 2723260	02-02-1996	Ajit		
	BE2	FR 2725308	04-05-1996	Ajit		
	BF2	FR 2730859	08-23-1996	Ajit <i>et al.</i>		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Sheet	3	of	5	Attorney Docket Number		1875.2120003

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		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA3	US-6,140,846	10-31-2000	Chan <i>et al.</i>	
	AB3	US-6,147,846	11-14-2000	Borg	
	AC3	US-6,160,428	12-12-2000	Pasqualini	
	AD3	US-6,194,944 B1	02-27-2001	Wert	
	AE3	US-6,351,157 B1	02-26-2002	Sharpe-Geisler	
	AF3	US-6,429,716 B1	08-06-2002	Drapkin <i>et al.</i>	
	AG3	US-6,628,149 B2	09-30-2003	Ajit	
	AH3	US-6,729,716 B2	05-04-2004	Eguchi <i>et al.</i>	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA3	FR 2739224	03-28-1997	Ajit		
	BB3	FR 2740907	05-09-1997	Ajit		
	BC3	GB 2290659 A	01-03-1996	Ajit		
	BD3	GB 2306250	04-30-1997	Ajit		
	BE3	JP 8-051197	02-20-1996	Ajit		
	BF3	JP 8-083897	03-26-1996	Ajit		

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		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA4	JP 8-107204	04-23-1996	Ajit		
	BB4	JP 8-172181	07-02-1996	Ajit		
	BC4	JP 8-250512	09-27-1996	Kinzer <i>et al.</i>		
	BD4	JP 9-116134	05-02-1997	Ajit		
	BE4	JP 9-172159	06-30-1997	Ajit		
	BF4	WO 98/20562	05-14-1998	Rumennik <i>et al.</i>		
	BG4	WO 00/38322	06-29-2000	Van Schaik <i>et al.</i>		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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		First Named Inventor	Janardhanan S. AJIT		
		Art Unit	2816		
		Examiner Name	Lam, Tuan Thieu		
Sheet	5	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	1875.2120003

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	CA1	Deng-Yuan Chen, "Design of a Mixed 3.3V and 5V PCI I/O Buffer," 2 nd International Conference on ASIC Proceedings, pp. 336-339 (October 21-24, 1996).	
	CB1	International Search Report dated April 13, 2003 PCT/US02/38489	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M PEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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